

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are rejected. Claim 1 and 11 are an independent claim. Claims 1- 20 are pending in the application.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the planar lightwave circuit feature(s) allegedly are not shown or described. Applicant notes that the boilerplate “the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims” is in fact, incorrect, as the USPTO issues patents without any drawings all the time. Before one applies 37 C.F.R. §1.83, one must read 37 C.F.R. §1.81(a) which states:

- (a) The applicant for a patent is required to furnish a drawing of his or her invention where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented...

(emphasis added).

In the present case, it is not believed that a person of ordinary skill in the art would need to see a drawing of a planar lightwave circuit feature(s) or the method steps to understand the claimed invention.

FIG. 6 has been amended to correctly order the waveforms from a), b), c) as specified on page 4 line 13 and page 8, line 15. A replacement sheet is attached to this response.

Claims 1 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sidorin, et al (UP 6,920,159). Applicant respectfully traverses the above stated rejection.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite a wavelength-tunable laser apparatus and method of creating same, comprising,...**a Fabry-Perot laser being wavelength-locked by one of the plural reflected light beams, wherein a wavelength interval**

between the plurality of longitudinal modes of Fabry-Perot laser and a wavelength interval between the plurality of light beams are different than each other, and operating temperature of the Fabry-Perot laser is controlled for wavelength tuning by wavelength-locking of another one of the plural reflected light beams.

Support for these feature and method can be found in the specification and drawings (Abstract; Page 2, line 20 to 21, FIG. 2; benefits Page 7, line 19 to 20; Page 8 line 1 to 14 FIGs. 5a to 5c, page 8, line 15, and FIG. 6a to 6c).

In contract, Sidorin discloses a tunable optical source which does not anticipate the present invention by teaching a **Fabry-Perot laser being wavelength-locked by one of the plural reflected light beams** or method of creating same, as recited in base claims.

Accordingly applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 8-10, 12, 13 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sidorin et al. (US 6,920,159) in view of Sugden et al. (US 6,768,098).

Applicant responds by noting that the other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present patent application are respectfully solicited.

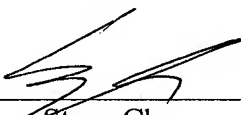
For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited reference. A notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues, which may be best, resolved by telephone communication, please contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Cha
Registration No. 44,069

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By: Steve Cha
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,069

Mail all correspondence to:

Steve Cha, Registration No. 44,069
Cha & Reiter
210 Route 4 East, #103
Paramus, NJ 07652
Tel: 201-226-9245

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 23, 2006.

Steve Cha, Reg. No. 44,069
(Name of Registered Rep.)


(Signature and Date)

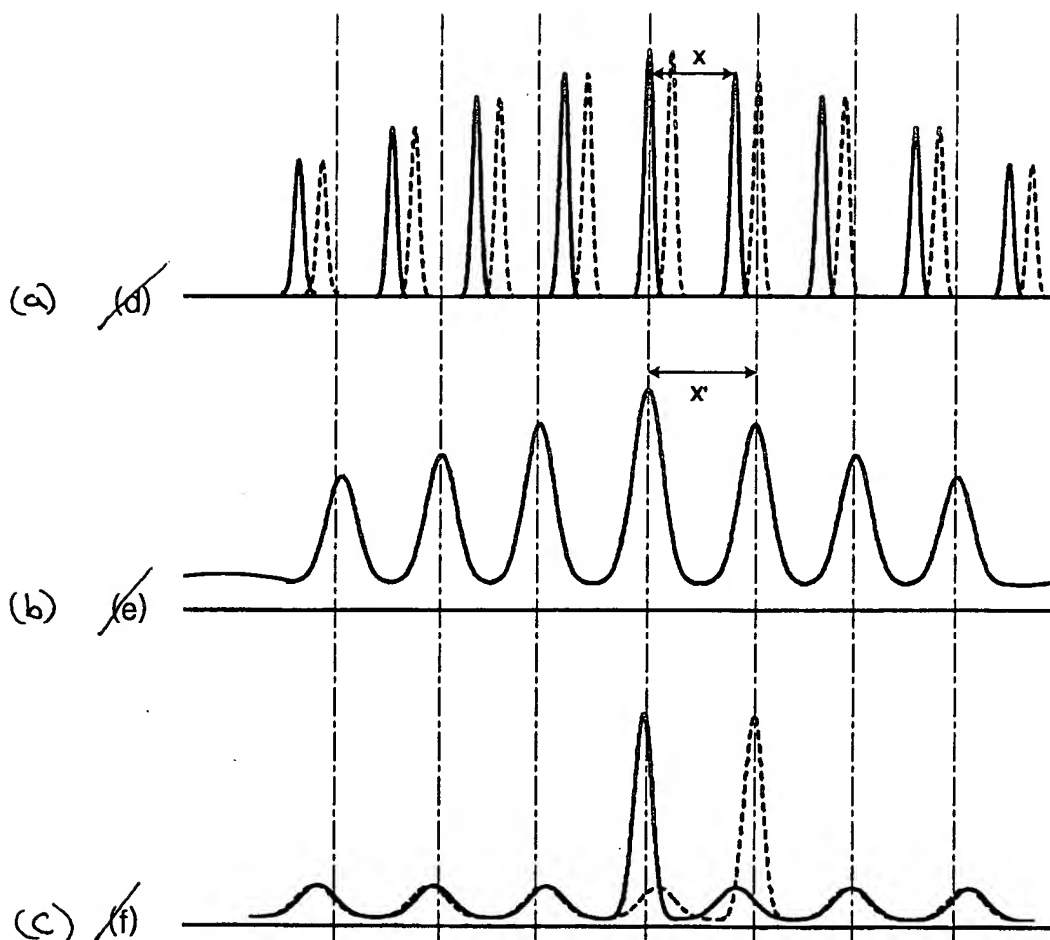


FIG.6